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Okay, Doll, This Is the Get Me Casey. I've G

The CIA Is the Largest News-Gathering C
and Its National Intelligence Daily Is Very
By Dale Van Atta

For more than twenty years Bill dreamed of publishing a little newspaper. He realized his dream in 1974, launching a four-page publication that readers, when they referred to it at all, simply called the *NID*. It came out every day except Sunday, when most of its readers rested.

Bill says his newspaper had the largest reporting staff of any on earth and a budget running to billions of dollars. Unquestionably, the communications technology used to produce the *NID* was the best yet devised. Although there was no advertising to bump any of the paper's many exclusives, its editors often complained of a need for more space. But Bill resisted: Keep it small, he said. Bill made sure that it was kept exclusive as well. The *NID* never had more than sixty customers. One of them was the President of the United States.

Bill will tell you that his reporters and newspaper were the best in the world. Mostly we have to take his word for that, because the paper's readers were required to return it or destroy it. *NID* is short for *National Intelligence Daily*, the newspaper of the Central Intelligence Agency. Bill is short for William Egan Colby, director of the CIA from 1973 to 1976.

Pity the CIA man, for he is a most misunderstood creature.

They—which means everyone not in the know—call him an agent. He huffs at that. Agents are merely spies, and are paid and “handled,” whereas he is a case officer or analyst. They say he is covert, which is true, but that does not mean that he is evil. They draw him in cloak and with dagger, but his true companions are computers, economic matrices, and *Roger's Thesaurus*. They say the security of the nation rests on his judgment; but often, if he is to advance,



The front page of the *Nation Intelligence Daily* for Friday, 29, 1975, and William Egan who founded this most secret newspaper in the world.

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